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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,159	09/25/2003	Masayasu Ito	02008.124001	7433
22511	7590	10/05/2004	EXAMINER	
OSHA & MAY L.L.P. 1221 MCKINNEY STREET HOUSTON, TX 77010			VO, TUYET THI	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2821	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/671,159

Applicant(s)

ITO ET AL.

Examiner

Tuyet Vo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2003.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-9 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/25/2003.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Swanson et al. (US Pub. 2003/0025465).

Swanson discloses a vehicular lamp comprising a light source including a light-emitting diodes connected in parallel manner and (14, 16, 18) operable to emit light in accordance with power received from a power supply (10) provided in an outside of said vehicular lamp (Fig. 1), wherein a lamp body (20) operable to accommodate said light source therein to protect said light source from any undesirable environment such as water or the like; and a breaking detection unit (58) operable to detect breaking said light source and notify an outside of said lamp body of the detection result (page 2, [0027] to page 2, [0029]) when the lamp outage/inoperative due to any cause such as broken lamp or the like.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 3-9 are rejected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims 1 and 2, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims with correction as mention above.
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior fails to provide a breaking detection unit notifies the outside of said lamp body of information

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indicating said breaking via a breaking information notifying line that is electrically independent of a power transmission line for transmitting said power to said light sources as required in claim 3. The prior art also lacks to establish an impedance changing unit operable to change impedance between two power transmission lines for transmitting said power to said light source in a case where said breaking detection unit detected said breaking, wherein said breaking detection unit notifies the outside of said lamp body of information indicating said breaking by making said impedance changing unit change said impedance as required in claim 4 or the light source receives said power that intermits at a predetermined period, said breaking detection unit detects said breaking during a time period in which said light source receives said power, said vehicular lamp further includes a holding capacitor operable to hold a value indicating whether or not said breaking detection unit detected said breaking as required in claim 7.

Citation of pertinent prior art

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicants' disclosure.

Pross et al. (US Pat. 6,396,466) discloses optical vehicle display.

Bell (US Pat. 4,195,281) discloses lamp outage indicator circuit.

Correspondence

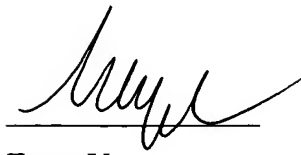
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuyet Vo whose telephone number is 571 272 1830. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571 272 1834. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 872 9306 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308 0956.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tuyet Vo', is written over a horizontal line.

Tuyet Vo

Primary examiner

September 30, 2004